THE FAMILY NAMES FOR THE STORM PETRELS AND THE DIPPERS. Z.N.(S.)2024

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In November 1972 an application was received from Dr G. N. Kashin (*Prospekt Vernadskogo No. 61, app. 53, Moscow 117415 U.S.S.R.*) pointing out that the family name HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912, currently used for the storm petrels, is doubly invalid, as a junior homonym of HYDROBATIDAE Degland, 1849, for the dippers, and as a junior objective synonym of THALASSIDROMIDAE J. W. von Müller, 1865. Some authors also treat it as a junior subjective synonym of OCEANITIDAE Forbes, 1882, but this is not universally accepted. Dr Kashin wished to see THALASSIDROMIDAE suppressed and HYDROBATIDAE Mathews rejected, so that OCEANITIDAE would be placed on the Official List as the family name for the storm petrels and CINCLIDAE Sundevall, 1836 as the family name for the dippers.

2. The facts in this case are somewhat involved and have taken some time to collect. The two issues involved will be discussed separately.

The dippers

3. The valid generic name for the dippers is *Cinclus* Borkhausen, 1797, *Deutsche Fauna*, vol. 1, p. 300, type species, through *Cinclus hydrophilus* Borkhausen, 1797, *Sturnus cinclus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.*, ed. 10, p. 168. This genus is the type genus of the family CINCLIDAE Sundevall, 1836, *K. Vetensk. Akad. Handl.* for 1835, p. 91.

4. *Hydrobata* Vieillot, 1816, *Analyse d'une nouvelle ornithologie élémentaire*, p. 42, type species, by subsequent designation by G. R. Gray, 1841, *List of the genera of birds*, 2nd ed., p. 35, *Sturnus cinclus* Linnaeus, 1758, is a junior objective synonym of *Cinclus* Borkhausen, 1797. It is, however, the type genus of HYDROBATIDAE Degland, 1849, *Ornithologie européenne*, vol. 1, p. 445. As a junior objective synonym of CINCLIDAE Sundevall, 1836, HYDROBATIDAE cannot be used for the dippers; but it is available as a senior homonym of HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912, which cannot therefore be used for the storm petrels.

5. From this analysis it is clear that the names currently used for the dippers are nomenclaturally valid and no intervention by the Commission is necessary.

The storm petrels

6. The oldest generic name for the storm petrels is *Hydrobates* Boie, 1822, *Isis* (Oken), 1822, col. 562, type species, by subsequent designation by Baird, Brewer & Ridgway, 1884, *Mem. Mus. comp. Zool. Harvard* vol. 13, p. 403, *Procellaria pelagica* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* ed. 10, p. 131. It is

the type genus of HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912, *Birds of Australia*, vol. 2, pt 1, p. 9 which, as we have seen, is doubly invalid.

7. *Thalassidroma* Vigors, 1825, *Zool. J.* vol. 2, pt 7, p. 405, type species, by original designation, *Procellaria pelagica* Linnaeus, 1758, is a junior objective synonym of *Hydrobates* Boie, 1822. It is the type genus of THALASSIDROMIDAE J. W. von Müller, 1865, *Syst. Verz. Wirbelth. Mexicos* (Reise in den V.S., Canada und Mexico) vol. 3, pt 3, p. 594. As *Thalassidroma* was rejected long before 1961, THALASSIDROMIDAE is invalid under Article 40b and the date of HYDROBATIDAE Mathews is to be cited as '1912 (1865)'. Article 40 as a whole, however, deals only with the Principle of Priority and it does not follow that a date cited under its provisions is valid also for the purposes of the Principle of Homonymy.

8. *Oceanites* Keyserling & di Blasius, 1840, *Wirbelthiere Europas*, pp. xciii, 131, type species, by subsequent designation by G. R. Gray, 1841, *List of the genera of birds*, 2nd ed, p. 99, *Procellaria wilsoni* Bonaparte, 1824, *J. Acad. nat. Sci. Philadelphia*, p. 231, is available for the long-legged storm petrels. The valid name for the type species is *Procellaria oceanica* Kuhl, 1820, *Beitr. Zool.* vol. 1, p. 136. It is the type genus of OCEANITIDAE Forbes, 1882, *Rep. sci. results Challenger*, Zool. vol. 4, pt 11, p. 3. Some ornithologists divide the HYDROBATIDAE into two subfamilies, HYDROBATINAE for the short-legged and OCEANITINAE for the long-legged storm petrels. This usage, however, is invalid because it inverts the priority of the two family-group names.

9. It is clear that the current usage of HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912, can only be conserved if the plenary powers of the Commission are used, first, to suppress HYDROBATIDAE Degland, 1849 for the purposes of the Principle of Homonymy, and secondly, to give HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912 nomenclatural precedence over OCEANITIDAE Forbes, 1881. The Commission is accordingly requested:

(1) to use its plenary powers:
  (a) to suppress the family name HYDROBATIDAE Degland, 1849 for the purposes of the Principle of Homonymy;
  (b) to rule that the family name HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912 is to be given nomenclatural precedence over the family name OCEANITIDAE Forbes, 1882, by anyone who regards the two names as synonyms at the same rank in the family group;

(2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
  (a) *Hydrobates* Boie, 1822 (gender: masculine), type species, by subsequent designation by Baird, Brewer & Ridgway, 1884, *Procellaria pelagica* Linnaeus, 1758;
  (b) *Oceanites* Keyserling & di Blasius, 1840 (gender: masculine), type species, by subsequent designation by G. R. Gray, 1841, *Procellaria wilsoni* Bonaparte, 1824;

(3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  (a) *pelagica* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen

Procellaria pelagica (specific name of type species of *Hydrobates* Boie, 1822);

(b) *oceanica* Kuhl, 1820, as published in the binomen *Procellaria oceanica* (the valid name at the time of this proposal for the type species of *Oceanites* Keyserling & di Blasius, 1840);

(4) to place on the Official List of Family–Group Names in Zoology:

(a) HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912 (1865) (type genus *Hydrobates* Boie, 1822), as validated under the plenary powers in (1) above, with an endorsement that it is to be given nomenclatural precedence over OCEANITIDAE Forbes, 1882 whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms at the same rank in the family group;

(b) OCEANITIDAE Forbes, 1882 (type genus *Oceanites* Keyserling & di Blasius, 1840) with an endorsement that it is not to be given priority over HYDROBATIDAE Mathews, 1912 whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms at the same rank in the family group;

(5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:

(a) *Hydrobata* Vieillot, 1816, a junior objective synonym of *Cinclus* Borkhausen, 1797;

(b) *Thalassidroma* Vigors, 1825, a junior objective synonym of *Hydrobates* Boie, 1822;

(6) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology *hydrophilus* Borkhausen, 1797, as published in the binomen *Cinclus hydrophilus*, a junior objective synonym of *cinclus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Sturnus cinclus*;

(7) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology:

(a) HYDROBATIDAE Degland, 1849, as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above;

(b) THALASSIDROMIDAE J. W. von Müller, 1865, invalid because the name of its type genus is a junior objective synonym rejected before 1961.